

Application No.: 09/417,767
Response Under 37 C.F.R. §1.116 dated May 11, 2004
Reply to the Office Action of February 11, 2004

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

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Claim 1 (Currently Amended): An electronic camera, comprising:

an imaging device for periodically outputting an image signal of an object;
a processor for subjecting the image signal, outputted from said imaging device, to a signal processing;
a calculator for calculating a specific compression ratio capable of compressing a preceding image signal, outputted from said processor and corresponding to a preceding screen, to a specific size;
a compressor for compressing a current image signal, outputted from said processor and corresponding to a current screen appearing after the preceding screen, using the specific compression ratio; and
a recorder for recording to a recording medium a plurality of screens of compressed image signals created by said compressor.

Claim 2 (Previously Presented): An electronic camera according to claim 1, wherein said calculator calculates the specific compression ratio based on an arbitrary compression ratio, a size of the compressed image signal obtained by compressing the preceding image signal with the arbitrary compression ratio, and the specific size.

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Claim 3 (Previously Presented): An electronic camera according to claim 1, further comprising a selector for selecting one of a first recording mode to create within said recording medium a plurality of still image files respectively accommodating the plurality of screens of the compressed image signals and a second recording mode to create within said recording medium a motion image file collectively accommodating the plurality of screens of compressed image signals, wherein said processor creates the image signal having a first resolution when the first recording mode is selected by said selector and creates the image signal having a second resolution when the second recording mode is selected by said selector, and the specific size is different between the first recording mode and the second recording mode.

Claim 4 (Currently Amended): An electronic camera according to claim 2 3, wherein the first resolution is higher than the second resolution, and the specific size directed to the first recording mode is greater than the specific size directed to the second recording mode.

Claim 5 (Previously Presented): An electronic camera according to claim 3, wherein said imaging device outputs one screen of the image signal at a first interval when the first recording mode is selected and outputs one screen of the image signal at a second interval when the second recording mode is selected.

Claim 6 (Previously Presented): An electronic camera according to claim 5, wherein the first interval is longer than the second interval.